

Effective Connections

Making the Senior Year Count

February, 2001

State of Iowa
Department of Education
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INTRODUCTION



The educational institutions of Iowa collaborate on a daily basis to provide the students in Iowa High Schools opportunities that they would not otherwise have. The goal of these collaborative efforts is to have high school graduates who will successfully transition to postsecondary education and to work.

The Department of Education has been working as a part of the Regents Committee on Educational Relations (RCER) to identify strategies to enhance the high school experience and especially the last year of the high school so that students have the knowledge and skills to successfully complete college level work. We continue to work collaboratively to provide planning tools for middle and high school students and their parents.

The Department of Education solicited nominations of current programs and services to meet this goal of enhancing the high school experience and categorized examples in the following areas:

- Advanced Placement Courses
- Postsecondary Enrollment Options
- Connections with community colleges through articulated programs and dual credit programs
- Connections with the Regents Institutions
- Connections with private colleges and universities

This publication highlights some of these programs in order to encourage parents and students to look into the different avenues that may be open to them to enhance the senior year and to provide a smooth transition to their postsecondary experience or work. We encourage educational planners and administrators to continue to develop creative strategies that engage our high school students in courses and programs. It is through such linkages and transition programs that young Iowans gain a competitive advantage in postsecondary education and in the future workforce.

“On the average, the students who succeed best in college are those that prepare best in high school.”

Source: Task Force on
Preparing for Success at Iowa’s
Regents Universities

Advanced Placement Courses

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are administered by the College Board. As documented in the Iowa Department of Education 2000 Condition of Education Report, AP classes are designed to give students the opportunity to receive college credit for AP approved courses taken during a student's high school career. Approved high school courses are taught by AP accredited teachers and the AP exams given at the end of the course are scored on a five-point scale.

- 1 – carries no recommendation for college credit
- 2-interpreted as possibly qualified
- 3-indicates qualified
- 4-indicates well qualified
- 5-indicates a student is extremely well qualified.

“Students enjoy the challenge of taking AP courses with enthusiastic classmates and teachers; high school faculty find that AP courses enhance their students' confidence and academic interest as well as their school's reputation; and college faculty report that AP students are far better prepared for serious academic work.”

The College Board

<http://www.collegeboard.org/ap/>

In 1999, Iowa high school students took 5,241 AP exams. The average score for Iowa was 3.02 with 69.8% of the candidates receiving a score of 3 and above. 35.6% of the schools in Iowa participate in the AP program.

The benefits of offering AP courses include:

- Time and money saved in college
- Chance to challenge students by studying a subject in depth

As an example, students earning AP Chemistry Credit will fulfill the Physical Sciences requirement in the Natural Science and Technology category in the Revised General Education Program at the University of Northern Iowa.

At the University of Iowa, a score of 3-4 on the AP Chemistry exam allows the student 3 semester hours applied to the general education program Natural Sciences (non-lab) requirements or 3 hours of elective credit. Earning a score of 5 allows the student 6 hours of credit, three of which may be used for the general education program Natural Sciences (non-lab) requirement and 3 elective credits.

Source: Iowa Department of Education, The Annual Condition of Education Report, 2000.
The College Board Web page (<http://www.collegeboard.org>)
UNI WebPage (<http://www.uni.edu>)

Postsecondary Enrollment Options

“Don’t just prepare yourself to survive in college; prepare yourself to thrive there...The best preparation for college is not to take the minimum courses, but the optimum courses.”

Source: Task Force on Preparing for Success at Iowa’s Regents Universities



“The more rigorous your courses are in high school, the more successful you’re likely to be in college and beyond.”

Source: Task Force on Preparing for Success at Iowa’s Regents Universities

Another option available to Iowa high school students is the ability to earn college credit while still enrolled in high school through the Postsecondary Enrollment Option (Iowa Code, Chapter 261C). Students in the eleventh or twelfth grade or any ninth or tenth grade student identified as gifted and talented is eligible to take a college/university course. Students may enroll in classes not offered in their home district. Under this program, the high school district pays the amount equal to the lesser of “actual and customary costs of tuition, textbooks, materials, and fees directly related to the course taken” or the sum of \$250.

In 1998-99, 5,815 students took 9,991 courses through this option. This was a 162% increase in the number of students taking advantage of this opportunity and a 209% increase in the number of courses taken since the 1992-93 school year.

Heather Janssen attended Simpson College her senior year under the PSOE program while enrolled at SE Warren High School. After researching the classes that were available in the time slots in her schedule, she chose to take ***Western Civilization*** and ***Western Literature***.

When asked the advantages of taking part in the PSOE program, Heather said, “The courses were challenging and really prepared me for college now.” Heather is currently enrolled at Des Moines Area Community College and plans to transfer to Iowa State University, majoring in Elementary Education.

Source: Iowa Department of Education, The Annual Condition of Education Report, 2000.

Jointly Administered Programs and Dual Credit Programs

Partnerships with high schools in their area have been a part of the Iowa scene since the community colleges began. By working together, the high schools or consortia of high schools are able to offer quality career and technical programs for their students that would otherwise be fiscally impossible to do. Today, these programs often involve dual credit where the students earn high school and college credit at the same time.

During the 1977-78 school year, 2059 students were involved in jointly administered programs. This was 2.6% of the students involved in career and technical (vocational) education that year. In the 1999-2000 school year, the number of high school students involved in these programs was 5978, which was a 65.6% increase from 1977-78. The increase in the number of total students involved in career and technical education programs was 17.1% during this same time period. *

Tech Prep...a Program of Study that...

- Combines at least two years of secondary education and two years of postsecondary education in a non-duplicative, sequential course of study;
- Strengthens the applied academic component of career and technical education through the integration of academic, and career and technical education;
- Provides technical preparation in a career area such as engineering technology, applied science, a mechanical, industrial, or practical art or trade, agriculture, a health occupation, business, or applied economics;
- Is administered per a written agreement between the cooperating educational entities that defines the curriculum, operational policies, and credit provisions.
- Builds student competence in mathematics, science, and communications in a coherent sequence of courses; and
- Leads to an associate degree or certificate in a specific career field, leads to placement in high skill, high wage employment, or further education.

* Source: Department of Education, CE-4 Summary Report (1999-2000)
Final Report of the Task Force on Vocational Education, Department of Education, 1979

***Aviation Technology
Jointly Administered
Programs***

***Des Moines Public
Schools
Des Moines Area
Community College***



Lena Stoddard, North High School, and Michael Anousis, East High School look forward to high paying, highly technical careers in aviation technology. They believe that the program offered through the Des Moines Public Schools and Des Moines Area Community College offers them this opportunity.

The program, one of three in the entire United States, provides instruction and practice in the procedures and practices on how to use materials, hand and machine tools, and other special equipment in building, maintaining, or altering airframes and power plants.

Aviation Maintenance Technicians are in demand at the present time. *Aviation Maintenance* projects “by one estimate the air carrier industry alone will have 10,000 maintenance positions open every year for the next several years. The Federal Aviation Administration forecast through the year 2004 indicates a combined growth and attrition replacement averaging about 15,000 new hires per year.”

When asked if there was a connection between what the students learned in the aviation lab and what they learned back at their home schools, there was an overwhelming, “Of course!” from both of these students. Michael explained how you must know and apply basic algebra, trigonometry and geometry when balancing an aircraft. Lena felt the program helped her see why it was important to learn English, math, and science and had gotten her on “the right track”.

An exciting part of the program is an internship with the Iowa Air National Guard unit housed at the Des Moines International Airport. Seniors or third year students who have earned the privilege of applying for this internship produce a professional resume and fill out a formal application for the Guard. Department heads in the Guard interview those who are being considered. Mike was a part of this internship in the fall of 2000. As a part of his experience, he launched and landed an F-16 using the most advanced technology in the world. In Mike’s words, “Launching an F-16 is pretty neat”.

The students reiterated that the possibility of a high paying job in an area that they were very interested in was their motivation for being in the program. When asked where she thought she would be five years from now, Lena replied, “Working in a small city in Iowa as an airplane mechanic with a salary of \$40,000.”

***Industrial
Technology
Jointly Administered
Programs***

***Iowa Lakes
Community College
Regional High
School Academy***



Initially, Armstrong-Ringsted and Iowa Lakes Community College formed a partnership to enable high school students to earn high school credit, college credit, and develop occupational skills. Students in a high school with an enrollment of 150 or less have access to a program that would not be available without this partnership with the college.

Each day, the students from Armstrong-Ringsted High School travel to Emmetsburg to participate in the following Industrial Technology courses as well as learn key employability skills:

- Auto Technology
- Farm Equipment and Diesel Mechanics
- Construction Technology
- Welding
- Motorcycle Mechanics

Armstrong-Ringsted

Sentral

Emmetsburg

Graettinger

North Kossuth

Estherville

Through articulation agreements, students can earn ten college credits while involved in this program and gain a head start on the Auto Technology, Farm Equipment and Diesel Mechanics programs at

Jolene Hunecke, guidance counselor at Armstrong-Ringsted, noted that the students seem to be more interested in their other courses at the high school when they return.

Superintendent Jim O'Meara stated, "I would like our students to have the opportunity to learn occupational skills that will make them employable in our own communities. These programs offer students the skills for them to stay in the area and earn a living wage."

36 Miles: Pathway to Success, Area II Tech Prep/School-to-Work Newsletter, January 15, 2000.

The program is so successful that in the spring semester, 2001 five other high schools joined Armstrong-Ringsted and Iowa Lakes Community College to form the Regional High School Academy.

***Information
Systems Technology***

***Garner-Hayfield HS
North Iowa Area
Community College***



NIACC has developed a hub concept for the Tech Prep programs in their area. Working with all the high schools throughout the region, NIACC has developed programs in HUB high schools so that as many students as possible have access to quality programs.

The Information Technology Hub located at Garner-Hayfield draws students from Garner-Hayfield, West Hancock, Forest City, and Woden-Crystal Lake-Titonka districts. This is a Cisco certified program, one of 27 Cisco Networking Academies in Iowa at the present time.

Cisco Systems, Inc., a private company, partners with educational institutions to provide training to people who seek employment in the computer industry. The program is a rigorous course of study that includes practical applications and tests. Cisco's emphasis is networking solutions that connect people, computing devices and computer networks so that people are able to access or transfer information without regard to differences in time, place or type of computer system.

Mary Mosiman of NIACC describes the Cisco Networking Academy, "Cisco's approach is practical and hands-on. Students not only have the chance to study networking problems and solutions; they also have to prove their competence in solving these problems on an actual network."

Cisco certification (CCNA) brings with it a starting salary around \$35,000. The CCNP certification produces salaries in the six-figure range.

Source: NIACC Connection, November 2000
Cisco webPage <http://cisco.netacad.net/cnacs/pub->

***Internships
Aquaculture &
Environmental
Science***

***Des Moines Public
Schools Central
Campus
Des Moines Area
Community College***



Using the Career Pathways concept, an internship program in the area of Aquaculture and Environmental Science was developed as a shared program between Central Campus of the Des Moines Public Schools and Des Moines Area Community College.

Students interested in furthering their knowledge of the Food, Fiber, and Environmental Sciences pathway have an exciting opportunity to participate in internships and mentorships with current and retired business leaders.

The program requires that students have a grade C or better in Marine Biology, Veterinary Technology, or Horticulture/Animal Science/Aquaculture. The Marine Biology course is available at Central Campus and provides an opportunity not available to many high schools in the nation. The exciting contextual learning that occurs in this course includes such examples as breeding sharks for the Omaha Zoo.

Students learn:

- Lab technology and management of aqua crops
- Marine and fresh water invertebrates, vertebrates and plants
- Knowledge and skills in personal development and leadership through involvement in FFA
- Business entrepreneurship
- Biotechnology
- Scientific exploration
- About environmental science and agriscience careers.

An exciting part of this program is the optional two-week ecological field trip to Florida during Spring Break.

***“ The more rigorous
your courses are in high
school, the more
successful you’re likely
to be in college and
beyond.”***

Source: High Expectations:
Preparing for Academic Success
at Iowa’s Regents Universities

Broadcast-Telecommunications Tech Prep Program

***Algona High School
Iowa Lakes Community College***

With a partnership of the community, the high school, and the community college, Algona High School added a facility to house the Broadcast-Telecommunications Tech Prep Program.

This program, articulated with the Broadcast Media Specialist program at Iowa Lakes Community College, provides eight semester college credits.

The classes include:

- ❖ ***Television Production*** – studies the process of television/video production, including studio application. An applied course for developing knowledge and skills for creating, shooting, editing and producing professional video segments such as commercials.
- ❖ ***Writing for the Media and Beginning News Writing*** - an instructional workshop for developing the skills to write broadcast news. Students study techniques for writing broadcast news stories and commercial copy. The program also presents an introduction to mass media which includes mass communication theory, trends, criteria and selection of news, distinction between "hard" and "soft" news; news audience; news room organization and procedure, free press and fair trial as well as current issues in journalism.



Broadcast Lab – Work in a simulated broadcasting laboratory in the interactive television studio, radio studio and possible private broadcasting stations in the local area to gain experience in commercial development and advertising sales. Demonstration of knowledge pertaining to equipment is stressed.

“The best part of the program is the way the instructor incorporates SCANS skills into his highly technical curriculum. Employers nationally report that these soft skills are crucial to employee success. The students are learning problem-solving skills, creative thinking, working as a team, and other interpersonal skills while they shoot, edit, and produce a weekly televised broadcast.”

Valerie Newhouse, Associate Dean, Iowa Lakes
Community College

***Jointly Administered
Programs
Microsoft® A+ Program***

***Red Oak High School
Southwestern Community
College***



Eighteen students make up the class taught by Doug Zumwalt, SWCC instructor, who also works in the field as a technology consultant in Red Oak.

The business community has supported the Microsoft® A+ program from the beginning. After the school, the business partners, and the community college identified a need, space was an issue. In response to this need, a company in town offered their training facility so that the class could be offered.

The instructor's company feels that the need for Microsoft® A+ certified technicians is so important, they give him the time to teach the Tech Prep program every morning.

The class is made up of students who are interested in either attending Southwestern Community College's AAS program, *Business Systems Networking*, or attending a four-year institution with a major in computer science. Many of the students are taking Advanced Placement classes and feel that the A+ program is an "AP class in computers".

Cecilia Werner, guidance counselor at Red Oak High School, said the big draw for both students and parents is the chance to earn college credit while still in high school. Students will take the Microsoft® A+ certification test at the end of the year. In addition, they will have earned six hours of college credit. Future plans are to offer Microsoft® Net+ program during the 2000-2001 school year.

As parent Jeanice Lester said, "It's awesome. I am going to encourage my son to take the second year."

Jointly Administered Programs

**Tucker Center for Career
and
Technical Education
Iowa Western Community
College
Council Bluffs CSD
St. Albert High School
Lewis Central CSD**



When you ask the students in the General Health Occupations class at the Tucker Center in Council Bluffs the advantages to being in this program, the answers look like this:

- *We see all aspects of being involved in the health field.*
- *We learn how to work with patients—things you can't learn out of a book.*
- *We get a head start in building our comfort level in working with real people.*
- *We can build leadership skills through our involvement in HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America).*
- *It's lots of fun but hard work—you really have to study. It's harder than our anatomy class at our home school. We have to know rather than just memorize.*
- *Seeing what a patient looks like coming out of anesthesia if they smoke is much different than a teacher telling us not to smoke.*

Earning two semester hours of credit at Iowa Western Community College and getting a head start in identifying and understanding the many facets of health care and the career opportunities involved is the essence of this career pathway program in Health Sciences. Students have the opportunity to be in the program for two years or one year depending on time availability in their schedule. The first year is exploratory with job shadowing, study of health care professionalism, and the career ladders in health occupations.

The second year is the study of medical terminology and translates into two hours of credit at Iowa Western CC and other postsecondary health programs in the area. This class reinforces and expands upon the Anatomy and Physiology courses available at their home school. Students not only learn medical terms but they learn the anatomy and physiology, the diagnostic procedures, and the pathology and procedures related to the medical terms as well as the related health careers.

Other academic skills are enhanced through the use of journaling. The job shadowing journal addresses the career aspect as well as connecting what they are learning in the classroom to what they see at the hospital, community clinic, or nursing home. Student presentations are made on what they observe in their clinical experiences. The Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) competitions encourage students in their independent study as they prepare for the various events and each student is required to pick three areas, one of which is a team competition to encourage teamwork and team building skills.

This program gives students a head start on what they want to do after high school with a clearer understanding of what is available and where they fit.

**Jointly Administered
Programs**

**Culinary Arts Youth
Apprenticeship**

Scott Community College

**Bettendorf High School
and
Consortia Schools**

**“This is the only national
apprenticeship training program for
culinarians and operates in cooperation
with the United States Department of
Labor, Bureau of Apprenticeship and
Training.”**

An exciting program, offered through the sharing of expertise and resources, provides eastern Iowa students access to the Culinary Arts Youth Apprenticeship program. This program is open to high school students in 22 school districts.

High school students in their junior and senior year have the opportunity to begin the apprenticeship program involving 6000 hours of on-the-job training as well as theory-related courses, usually over a three-year period. The first 500 hours are probationary. Upon successful completion, the apprentice becomes a junior member of The American Culinary Federation.

The American Culinary Federation Educational Institute, in cooperation with local ACF affiliate chapters, sponsors the apprenticeship program. This is the only national apprenticeship-training program for culinarians and operates in cooperation with the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training. It is provided through joint agreements between the community college and the local school districts.

Scott Community College provides the instruction for the coursework as well as assistance in securing appropriate worksite practicum for the students. High school students receive the courses, ***Safety and Sanitation and Apprenticeship Theory*** via the Iowa Communications Network (ICN) from Bettendorf High School. The lab at Bettendorf is part of the ICN network and students are able to view actual demonstrations from their home site.

This program provides the first 2000 hours of on-the-job training under the supervision of an Executive Chef or Registered Dietician as well as nine credit hours at the community college.

**Dual Credit
Storm Lake Center**

**Storm Lake League of
Schools
Iowa Central
Community College**

“Project Earlybird” is a dual-credit program developed and administered through the cooperative efforts of the Storm Lake League of Schools and Iowa Central Community College.

Over twenty courses are available at the present time. Examples of the credit available when a student signs up for the class for a year are:

- Child Development (4 hours college credit)
- Cisco Computer Networking (4 hours college credit)
- Automotive Electrical Systems (3 hours college credit)
- Graphic Arts (6 hours college credit)
- Literature
- General Psychology
- English I

The courses are often a combination of curriculum offered at the community college as well as career exploration opportunities. For instance, students who take the Health Occupations class receive six hours of college credit for attending a two-hour block each day that encompasses Introduction to Health, Medical Terminology and First Aid courses at Iowa Central Community College. In addition, the students explore various health careers through classroom projects, field trips and job shadowing.

This type of cooperative arrangement between Iowa Central Community College and the Storm Lake League of Schools has been in effect since the 1994-95 school year. As Rick Schiedel, guidance counselor for Storm Lake High School commented, “I think that it’s a real advantage to students because you can start college already having some college credit.”

Alta

***Albert City-
Truesdale***

Newell-Fonda

***Schaler-
Crestland***

Storm Lake

***Storm Lake St.
Mary’s***

Sioux Central

**The Academy of Engineering
Technology
Cedar Rapids Jefferson High
School**

**Cedar Rapids Community Schools
District**

Kirkwood Community College



Students enrolling in the Engineering Technology Academy are involved in a “school within a school” concept that provides career exploration with a rigorous course of study preparing them for postsecondary work at either a community college or four year degree granting institution.

- College credit is earned in 7 two-year associate degree programs leading to high-tech careers with a salary range of \$22,000 to an average of \$50,000.
- The program also leads directly to the bachelor’s degree in Technology Management at the University of Northern Iowa where graduates can anticipate a salary range of \$ 28,000—\$100,000.

Source: Department of Labor, 1996

The academy requires that students successfully complete Algebra I prior to their junior year in high school. Students take Principles of Technology I and Electronics I during the junior year and Principles of Technology II, Electronics with Integrated Math and a 90-hour internship their senior year. Several academy students are taking the general Physics course as well. When asked why, they indicated that being in the Principals of Technology class helped them understand the theoretical base of the Physics class.

“Learning by doing and seeing”, rather than just reading out of a book, was a consistent theme with students enrolled in the academy. The three major reasons why students give for enrolling in the academy are: 1.) They like electronics and can see the career path; 2.) They want physics credit and like the Principles of Technology hands on approach; 3.) They want college credit.

**“ The advantage
of the academy
is that students
are now taking
physics who
wouldn’t be
because they
are scared of
the course.”**

Traci Maxtel,

***Iowa's Regent Institutions
Connect with High Schools***

***University of
Northern Iowa***

***Iowa State
University***

University of Iowa

The Regents institutions provide a variety of opportunities for high school students. Summer programs offer an opportunity to enhance their skills and to be exposed to the college environment. For instance, at the University of Iowa, the summer youth programs include:

- Forensics
- Iowa Young Writer's Studio
- Journalism Workshops (Yearbook, Newspaper/Newsmagazine, Photography, Web Site Design, Desktop Publishing, Broadcast Workshop)
- All-state Music Camp (Band, Orchestra and Chorus, Jazz Band, Percussion and Organ)
- Theatre Arts

The *Upward Bound Math and Science Program* at the University of Northern Iowa encourages high school students to seek postsecondary education in math or science. This program has operated since 1991 with about 80% of the program graduates going on to postsecondary education in math or science. Of those students, a majority enrolled in an Iowa college or university. Students in the program attend a free six-week summer session at UNI of classes and field trips.

Summer internships are also available for young women in high school through the Iowa State University *Program for Women in Science and Engineering*. In the summer preceding the senior year, young women may apply for an internship to work side by side with professors and other students conducting scientific research, writing scientific reports and attending group seminars and social events. Twenty high school students are chosen for a six weeks paid internship. 75% of the high school interns have been Iowans.

A program offered through the Secondary Education Club at Iowa State University involves students, faculty and staff members teaching a one-day course for middle school and high school students. Promotional materials for the *Splash Day* held on the ISU campus describe the program in this way:

“Splash is a one-day extravaganza of seminars, workshops, and lectures primarily created by Iowa State students to enrich the educational experiences of middle and high school students in Central Iowa. These courses should be as interactive and/or as discussion-based as possible. Students develop a love of learning through exploration, so it is our job to provide a fun and safe environment to facilitate this growth.”

**The National Academy
of Arts, Sciences and
Engineering**

University of Iowa

The National Academy of Arts, Sciences, and Engineering (NAASE) at the University of Iowa is the first program of its kind in a major research institution. NAASE is an early entrance program for students with high academic ability. Students who have completed course work equivalent to the junior year in high school have the opportunity to accelerate their academic careers and move into the stimulating environment of the University. This program is particularly beneficial to high school students who have exhausted the advanced honors and Advanced Placement (AP) courses at their high schools and desire the more challenging experiences of the university.

Students admitted to NAASE are automatically accepted as freshmen in the University of Iowa Honors Program. They live together on the Honors Residence Hall floors and receive academic, social, and cultural support through the University's Belin-Blank Center for Gifted Education.

*NAASE is an
early entrance
program for
students with
high academic
ability.*

The advantages for NAASE students and their families include:

- Participation in the most selective early entrance program in the nation;
- A \$1,000 merit NAASE Scholarship and special advising about other undergraduate and graduate scholarships;
- The opportunity to live in a learning environment with a group of highly motivated young scholars;
- The camaraderie of students who share their interests and abilities;
- Extensive personal academic advising to help shape a satisfying degree program;
- Automatic acceptance into the University honors program that offers close faculty relationships and interaction with role models who will challenge and interest students;
- An opportunity to choose any undergraduate major available in the University from more than 100 areas of student in the colleges of business administration, education, engineering , liberal arts, nursing and pharmacy;
- Early opportunities to assist leading scholars in their research
- Academy learning at public university prices;
- Personalized preparation for career placement or further study after college;
- A chance for parents to participate in the NAASE Parent's Association, sponsored by the Belin-Blank Center.

4 Year Private Colleges and Universities Connect with High Schools

Private four year colleges and universities are involved in *Upward Bound and Talent Search* programs. Briar Cliff College, Graceland University, Luther College, and St. Ambrose University have these six week summer programs that encourage first generation students to enroll and graduate from college.

Other programs reach out into the community and provide mentoring and tutoring for students in high schools. Briar Cliff students are involved in BCCares which is a campus program that networks with the Sioux City community to provide volunteer opportunities for students. This mentoring program pairs college students with Bishop Heelan High School (Sioux City) and West High School students (Sioux City).

Clarke College students also tutor high school students. Using e-mail, the college students are learning how to tutor people who struggle with writing.

Drake University hosts *Business Horizons* each summer. High school juniors and seniors earn college credit by enrolling in and fulfilling the requirements for the Drake course *Business 9*. Students learn to operate a successful business by working with Iowa business professionals. Students earn pass/fail credit by attending the session of Business Horizons during the week and submitting a formal written paper two weeks after the class. Drake is also offering Web-based courses, some of which are suitable for advanced high school students.

Private colleges also work with high schools and high school students in sponsoring activities such as the *Scholastic Art Awards Northwest Iowa Regional Exhibition 2001* at Morningside College and The *Cedar Valley Science Symposium* at Wartburg College. An added incentive for the Cedar Valley Science Symposium is that participating students are then eligible for \$2,000 honor scholarships.

At Briar Cliff Upward Bound program, coordinators meet with students to provide ongoing academic support and additional individualized services. Students return to Briar Cliff at least six times during the academic year to attend Saturday sessions that focus on academic support, leadership development, cultural enrichments, college exploration and community service activities.

Source:

www.briarcliff.edu/currentevents/updates.htm

The Future Holds.....

TEACHER ACADEMY Central Campus, DMPS DMACC, Grandview, ISU, UNI

The future holds exciting new programs such as the Teacher Academy at DMPS Central Campus. Des Moines Public Schools is planning to offer this academy to students from multiple high schools through a partnership with Des Moines Area Community College, Drake University, Grandview College, Iowa State University, and the University of Northern Iowa. This program will be available for student in the 2001-2002 school year.

The purpose of the teacher academy is to recruit, motivate and educate talented juniors and seniors for a career in secondary education. The program will provide students with skills and opportunities to become secondary educators. Program participants will explore teaching opportunities, earn college credit for education classes and participate in internships at cooperating middle and high schools. The academy will provide an excellent transition to teacher preparation programs at colleges and universities.

In March 2001 North Iowa Area Community College convened a group to discuss possible implementation of an Area II regional academy. One area of focus is the Associate of Arts Degree program with the recommendation to develop a planned series of college level general education classes for high school students. A plan has been developed and is now in the implementation stage.

Area II Regional Academy NIACC

Career Academies Kirkwood CC Metro Cedar Rapids Schools

In the 2001-2002 school year, the metro Cedar Rapids/Marion area students will have access to several career academies as a result of cooperation between Kirkwood Community College and K-12 districts in the metro area. The model used in the Engineering Career Academy in place at Jefferson High School will be offered in other career pathway clusters of Information Technology, Health Science, Graphics/Media Communication, and Family & Human Service.

Linn-Mar High School, a member of the Metro Area Career Academies Partners, is working with the career academy approach for all students with career exploration components available in the 9th and 10th grade. Utilizing the "school within a school" approach, career academies become a part of the developmental career education program. Business and industry in the Cedar Rapids metro area support career academy development. These academies are the result of the community college, the local school districts, business and industry, Grant Wood Area Education Agency and the community working together as active partners in the endeavor.